

My name is Lisa Bauerle. I live in Stamford, Connecticut. I fully support HB 5372 An Act Concerning Dyslexia Instruction Offered in Teacher Preparation Programs.

My daughter was diagnosed with dyslexia in the second grade. I suspected dyslexia in kindergarten, but none of her teachers or school personnel had the proper training to screen for dyslexia. It wasn't until her reading level declined dramatically over the next two years that I realized I needed to take matters into my own hands and get an independent evaluation. This was before the previous legislation passed allowing schools to test for dyslexia. She has made progress with independent reading instruction over the last four years with a Wilson reading program. We were lucky that there was one single teacher in her school willing and able to teach this program. However, no one at the school had the training we requested of being Orton Gilliam certified. I regret not having her tested sooner and that she couldn't get the proper reading instruction she needed so that we wouldn't have to spend years trying to get her caught up to grade level.

This bill would ensure the minimum standards for knowledge and practice within our institutions of higher education n how teachers are prepared in structured literacy.

Thank you,

Lisa Bauerle